



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

*Title:* Comprehensive Socioeconomic Data Collection from Alaskan Communities.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0626.

*Form Number(s):* NA.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission (revision and extension of a current information collection).

*Number of Respondents:* 250.

*Average Hours Per Response:* 1 hour.

*Burden Hours:* 261.

*Needs and Uses:* This request is for revision and extension of a current information collection.

The purpose of this data collection program is to improve commercial fisheries socioeconomic data for North Pacific fisheries, using the community as the unit of reporting and analysis. Communities are often the focus of policy mandates (e.g., National Standard 8 of the

Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Management Act (MSA), social impact assessments under the National Environmental Policy Act and MSA, North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) programmatic management goals, etc.) and are frequently a recognized stakeholder in NPFMC deliberations and programs. However, much of the existing commercial socio-economic data is collected and organized around different units of analysis, such as counties (boroughs), fishing firms, vessels, sectors, and gear groups. It is often difficult to aggregate or disaggregate these data for analysis at the individual community or regional level. In addition, at present, some relevant community level socio-economic data are simply not collected at all. The NPFMC, the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC), and community stakeholder organizations, have identified ongoing collection of community level economic and socio-economic information, specifically related to commercial fisheries, as a priority.

The proposed data collection is a continuation of a program collecting data since 2011, with some changes to the survey instrument. Data collected includes information on community revenues based in the fisheries economy, population fluctuations, vessel expenditures in ports, fisheries infrastructure available in the community, support sector business operations in the community, community participation in fisheries management, effects of fisheries management decisions on the community, and demographic information on commercial fisheries participants from the community. The information collected in this program will capture the most relevant and pressing types of data needed for socio-economic analyses of communities.

*Affected Public:* State, local and tribal governments.

*Frequency:* Biennially.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

This information collection request may be viewed at [reginfo.gov](http://reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to review Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [OIRA\\_Submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov) or fax to (202) 395-5806.

Dated: March 4, 2014

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